

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 21, 2006. In view of the foregoing amendments and following representations, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Initially, the specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised to make a number of minor clarifying or other editorial amendments. To facilitate entry of the revisions, a substitute specification and abstract has been prepared. No new matter has been added. Also enclosed is a "marked-up" copy of the original specification and abstract to show the changes that have been incorporated into the substitute specification and abstract. The enclosed copy is entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made." The objection to the specification should be obviated in view of the presentation of the substitute specification.

With regard to the objection to claim 7, the language thereof has been revised to eliminate the grammatical problems.


Next, on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 5 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In response, claims 5 and 17 have been amended to depend from claims 2 and 14, respectively, thereby providing proper antecedent basis for the "second metal plate". Therefore, the rejection of claims 5 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is clearly obviated. Note the pending claims have been reviewed and revised to conform with current U.S. practice. The amendments are relatively minor, and do not narrow the intended scope of the claims.

It is noted, with appreciation, that the claims are allowable. Thus, it is submitted that the present application is now clearly in condition for allowance. The Examiner therefore is requested to pass this case to issue.

In the event that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any remaining matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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